

### **Amendments to the Specification:**

Please make the following amendments to the specification. Material to be inserted in replacement paragraphs or sections is in **bold and underline**, and material to be deleted is in ~~strikeout~~ or (if the deletion is of five or fewer consecutive characters or would be difficult to see) in double brackets [[ ]].

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 10, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Attachment 30 is generally wedge-shaped and typically includes a sloped face 36 and a back wall, also referred to as outer face **or outer support** 38. Attachment 30 is positioned so that sloped face 36 contacts the boat hull. Outer face 38 projects upward generally perpendicular to base 32. Outer face 38, as shown in Figures 3 and 4, is slightly concave.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 7, line 1, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Contact surface 36 has first end portion 42 and second end portion 44. Base 32 has first end portion 46 and second end portion 48. First end portion 46 of the base is positioned closest to the center of the boat hull. Contact surface 36 is connected to base 32 via outer face 38 and inner support ~~portion~~ 50. Inner support ~~portion~~ 50 connects base 32 to the sloped portion of contact surface 36. Outer face **support** 38 is configured to extend generally vertically from second end portion 44 of contact surface 36 to second end portion 48 of base 36.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 7, line 15, with the following rewritten paragraph:

As shown in Fig 4, the rigid or stiff portion 52 of contact surface 36, has a support rib or load rib 56 that operates as a brace for supporting much of the weight of the boat along with supports 38 and 50. Load rib or first internal support 56 extends between contact surface 36 and base 32 and is interposed between outer ~~face~~ support 38 and inner support ~~portion~~ 50 of attachment 30. As shown, load rib 56 is attached to a central region of base 32. Load rib ~~52~~ 56 projects generally upward from the base and perpendicular to contact surface 36 and to the shell of a boat. In use, the portion of contact surface 36 supported by load rib 56 remains relatively stiff.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 8, line 3, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Flexible portion 54 of contact surface 36 is supported by spring rib or second internal support 58. Spring rib 58 allows compression of contact surface 36 and is spaced apart from contact surface 36. An associated chamber or partial chamber 60 is formed between contact surface 36 and spring rib 58. Chamber 60 adapts and conforms when a boat hull rests on contact surface 36. As depicted in Figure 4, spring rib 58 is substantially parallel to contact surface 36. Upper portion of contact surface 36 is more flexible and more accommodating than the lower portion of contact surface 54. This flexible portion provides a moldable characteristic to the attachment where the attachment generally molds to the shape of a boat hull. Although not shown, other rib

configurations are possible which may operate to provide a suitable flexible portion along contact surface 36.